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# THE GOSSIPS GREETING:

OR,  
A new Discouery of such Females  
*meeting.*

Wherein is plainly set forth the sundry sorts of those  
*kinds of women, with their severall humors  
and Conditions.*

Very pleasant and delectable.



LONDON,  
Printed by B. A. for Henry Bell, and are to be sold at  
his Shop in *Bethlem* at the signe of the  
*Sunne* 1630



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## TO THE COVERTS AND FRIENDLY

Reader, *W. P.* wisheth encrease of  
Health, Happiness, and Prof-  
*perity.*

**H**aving obserued many courses and  
dispositions of people, I noted  
the severall behaviours of lewd li-  
ving women: I speake not in any  
disdain of the vertuous, for some  
there are of that sex, in vertue unpa-  
raled, but of the vicious, whose base behaviours  
briefely I meane to expresse: Not any way tending (as  
particularly inclined) to taske any one particular wo-  
man with any inordinate or loose behaviour; but in ge-  
nerall all, whose vncircumcised resolutions so impious-  
ly inclined; cannot, nor may be rectified, who (in-  
deede) are not, or ought not, to be reputed Women.

I doubt not but I shall be carped at by many whose  
calumnious accusations I respect not: yet none will  
offer to reprove mee, but such whom it doth con-  
cerne,





### *The Epistle*

come, viz. your quotidian Gossips, whose vbiq-  
tary behaviour as it is most odious and detesta-  
ble, so ought it in some sort, if not reclaymed, to be  
reproued.

The discovery whereof (relying vpon your euer  
courteous and generous dispositions) I am embold-  
ned (hauing nought else at this instant worthy your  
view) to present vnto you, being some part of my late  
idle houres imployment, beseeching you to dayne  
to patronize this my small labour, which if it shall find  
acceptance, it shall not only encourage me in some  
better worke, so manifest my duty to you wards, but  
also oblige mee in a matter of more worth, to  
acknowledge my vnfaigned thankfulnessse vnto  
you.

It may bee some may say, that this subiect hath  
sufficiently beene written on already; to whom  
I thus answere, that albeit this subiect hath beene  
formerly written on, by most iudicious writers :  
yet was I also often by many of my good friends, and  
some of your company here vnto solicited.

Others haply may refuse the patronizing hereof,  
because it is against women; to whom I likewise thus  
answere, it is false otherwise, for those truly are wo-  
men, who do women like, demeane and behaue them-  
selues, both towards their husbands and in their fami-  
lies, of which most pious and happy sort you are  
most happily possesse: as for those feminines which  
here are spoke of (as I said before) they are vnworthy  
the name of women.

Thus

*to the Reader.*

Thus hoping of your favourable censures, I leave  
you to the tuition of the Almighty, who evermore  
keepe and defend all honest and good men from all  
such snee-Diuels.

Yours in all duty,

W. P.











## TO ALL FAVOURERS OF HONEST WOMEN.

**I***T may seeme strange to some, that women should  
Be branded with a badge of Infamy:  
who when they first were framed of this mould,  
were as records do plainly verifie,  
Ordain'd to be to man a helpe and stay,  
And so some are, to helpe men to decay.  
Though strange it seeme, 'tis not so strange as true,  
That too too many do most basely lye:  
Yet that the vertuous still may haue their due,  
To such respect too much we cannot giue:  
For some are loyall, louing, chaste, and kind,  
Some affable and courteous as we find.  
In ancient Annals of antiquity:  
Lucrecia the faire, Romes chiefeſt glory.  
For the true lone, and perfect loyalty,  
She bare her husband (as records the story)  
Being by a Lecher rauish't gainſt her will,  
Rather then wrong him, choſe her ſelfe to kill.  
Sixa, for loyall lone ſhe bore her Peere,  
Is much commended in the holy writ:*

Stu-

### To all Vertuous Women.

Susanna held her chastity so deare,  
That not the Elders could abolish it.  
Thousands of such there are enow at this day,  
But yet too few, too few I well may say.  
For were there more of such in euery place,  
So many tatling Gossips could not be,  
In towne and country, as (o heauy case)  
Who so obserues it may too plainly see,  
Whose course of life so odious is and euill,  
That they may well be tearm'd imps of the Diuell.  
Of whom, and whose proceedings heere I meane  
Briefely to speake, that men by me may know,  
The difference twixt a woman and a queene,  
Who only is a woman but in shew  
For in ought else that woman may adorne,  
She ne're was perfect, since she first was borne.  
You vertuous Matrons, whose bright lamps do shine,  
Be not offended, that I heere vnmaske  
The Hydra-bissing Serpents of our time,  
Your chiefe abuses, let me do my taske,  
And so the world your glories ile renew,  
Confronting them that keepe from yee your due.  
They are a crew, a Hellish crew God wot,  
That only do v'surpe a womans name,  
Who at the first were by the Diuell begot,  
Too chiefeest glory is their chiefeest shame.  
Their tongues are smoothly oyl'd, sweet are their words,  
And yet they cut worse then two edged swords.  
Their breasts are harbourers of enuious hearts,  
Their hearts are stored full of poysoned hate,





**To the Vertuous Women.**

*Their heads, their minds, and all their other parts,  
With euill thoughts do still associate.*

*Then needs must such be children of the diuell,  
Whose heads, hearts minds, and thoughts are alwayes  
And of these Vipers there are diuers kinds, (euill:  
The best whereof is most obnoxious:  
Whose false dissembling doth the world so blind,  
Dealing most wildly and perditions.*

*For Towne and Countrey gainst them do exclayme  
Both old and yong, and all of them complaine.  
They are term'd Gossips by a cunning name,  
Which name may very aptly be applide,  
For they so long goe, sipping to their shame,  
That being in cups all men do them deride:*

*Few Alehouses or Tauerne of resort,  
But of these Gossips can at large report.  
These and their horrid humors to the life,  
Meane I to limbe, and Painter-like set out,  
That men hereby may know a modest wife,  
Whose carefull loue doth euer goe about*

*Her fame, and husbands credit to mainetaine,  
Maugre all guile that seekes the same to staine.  
Since then the chiefeſt ſcope whereaſ I aime,  
Is truly twixt the good and bad to ſhew  
A perfect difference that they both may claime.  
Vnto themſelues what is to either due:*

*Reſpect my worthleſſe labour in good part,  
And in thy choiſe, uſe thy beſt ſkill and art.  
Thine W. P.*



# TO THE PROVD PEEVISH, PAVLTRY, PERNI- tious shee-pot companions, those curi- ous, carelesse, crafty, carping curtiza- nicall Gossips.

**B**lush you bold Bayards, when you beere behold,  
Your worthlesse merits portra'd to the life:  
Reforme those errors loosenesse hath enrould,  
Leane of your peevish pranks which are too rise,  
Why are you with vertue at debate and strifes?  
If in your selues you looke, you plaine may see,  
The horrid spots of your deformity,  
Pride makes your minds to mount above your states;  
Ambitious enuy harbors in your hearts,  
You are as slothfull as unfortunate:  
And Avarice doth with his subtil arts,  
Predominate even in your chiefeest parts:  
Nay all the seven deadly sins in one,  
Do sympathize in you their union.  
Blush monsters blish, (if any grace be left)  
For old and yong of you are much to blame:  
The diuell of goodnesse hath you quite bereft,  
You, only you, do verifie your name,  
You are a woe to man, the mor's your shame,  
A woe to man indeede, which ought to prone,  
To man a comfort in the rights of lone,







*To the Vicious Women.*

*Monsters you are in nature, most unkind  
Fcarelesse and carelesse, dangerous as Hell,  
None of you beare a modest womans mind,  
You do infect euen with your very smell,  
The place is most abhorrid where you dwell.*

*All haplesse fortunes do on you attend,*

*As base you line, so basely shall you end.*

*If certaine admonitions cannot cause*

*You to desist from your detested life,*

*Why, yet let shame among you haue applause,*

*But shame I doubt me is not with you so rise,*

*And modesty and you are at such strife.*

*That shamefull modesty nor modest shame,*

*Can your disorderd courses e're reclaime.*

*Wherefore vnto the patron of your pride,*

*Of your loose thoughts and incivility*

*Your chiefe Schoolemaster, who doth you diuide,*

*I leaue you far to learne deformity,*

*Who hath you tutor'd in impiety.*

*Run headlong to him, heele one day giue more hire,*

*To you for your merits, then you would desire.*

*Yours W. P.*

*The*



# THE HUMOUR

## OF SOME GOSSIPS AS

they meete going vnto an vp-  
*sitting or Banquet.*

**T**Wo common Gossips as it is the fashion;  
Being walk't abroad to take some recreation,  
Did meete by chance as they the fields did pace,  
Vnlook't for each with other in a place,  
Not far remote from where they did intend;  
In gossiping some certaine howres to spend:  
The place they aim'd at, was (as I heard say)  
Where new ly brought to bed a childwife lay:  
These louing Gossips happily thus meeting,  
And hauing each to other giuen greeting,  
Did soone conclude to *Tompsons* wife to goe,  
For heere her husbands name we will call fo:  
Quoth dainty *Doll* as soone as we come there,  
We shall be sure to haue most gallant cheere,  
As Capons, Rabets, Partridge, Woodcocks, Geese,  
Plouers, Quails, dainties, purest fruite and Cheese,  
With store of Sugar, Marchpane, and sweete Suckets  
Marmalat, Biskets, Carrowayes and Comfits,  
Wherewith good Gossip we our selues may store  
Vntill





*The Gossips greeting.*

Vntill our very Pockets doe rune o're:  
And as for wine, I am sure we cannot scape,  
Till we are stained with the purple grape :  
There may we safely sit, some certaine houres,  
Discoursing of owne and Husbands powers:  
There likewise shall we meete with neighbours store,  
Kindred, acquaintance, and with diuers more,  
Who will be glad at heart to meete vs there,  
Besides we neede not now our husbands feare;  
For they are safe I am sure, but Cossip say,  
How fares our Gossip Kate this many a day.  
(Good soule) I haue not scene her come from home,  
Quoth Bess she's overmastered by a moame,  
God helpe her wretch, she hath both her hands full,  
And worke enough to please a stubborne gull:  
Whilst all the weeke at home poore heart she toyle,  
Her Husband doth abroad liue of the spoyle,  
And like a vnthrif commonly each day;  
At Tables, Dice, and Tennis, he doth play,  
Lewdly consuming what he neuer got.  
I sorry am (Gossip) that it was her lot,  
Good pretty foole to meete with one so bad,  
Of whom there is no hope e're to be had;  
He beates and spurnes her, yet were that the wurst,  
I should not count her halfe so much accurst.  
But he base slaue (Gossip) as I suppose,  
Doth keepe a Queane e-ne vnderneath her Nose:  
And cares no more for her, then for a straw,  
No longer then she liue in feare and awe.  
Ist so quoth Doll, Lord Gossip who would deeme,

By

*The Gossips greeting.*

By his behaviour that he should esteeme,  
His wife so slightly, or so churlish proue:  
Were I to chuse againe, I ne're would loue  
A ciuill man; a man to all mens fight,  
Louing and courteous, but by this good light,  
Gossip I see, and do perceiue it now,  
That dresse is eaten by the stillest sow:  
That countenance and conscience seldome gree  
Where one corrupt the other smooth we see.  
Gossip quoth Bessie, beleue me this is true,  
Besides I know her husband well enough,  
I will not say that Mistris Luce he loue:  
Besides there goe foule lies but some can proue,  
He loues his maid, and hath done many a day,  
Which though she know yet dares she not gaine say.  
Then sighing thus doth Dorothy reply:  
Gossip in sooth, euen such a maid haue I,  
For not long since, but euen th'other day,  
She closely by her master talking lay,  
But I suppose I paid her in such sort,  
That shee le haue small delight againe vnto such sport.  
But tell me Gossip, pray when did you see,  
Our good friend mistris Prune? good woman she,  
Is a kind creature, and a gentle Duck.  
O but quoth Bessie (Gossip) she hath hard luck,  
She much is altred since you saw her last,  
Her goods are pawn'd, her Husband he lies fast,  
Good man in prison, they haue nothing left,  
But are of goods and meanes and all bereft;  
Marry God forbid saith Dorothy agen,

That







*The Gossips greeting.*

That such hard fate should hap to honest men :  
I am sorry that their state so low is brought,  
And all their substance so consum'd to nought ;  
But 'tis no marvaile, I did still suppose,  
Such dainty diet and such gallant clothes, (broke  
Would one day (though 'twere long first make them  
But what I thought, till now I ne're did speake  
Come Gossip come, to end this chatting strife,  
Let vs goe in to master *Tompsons* wife:  
Wherewee'le carouse full cups to driue downe sorrow,  
So after part, and meete againe to morrow.

---

These smooth tong'd Gossips quite deuoid of shame,  
Are such that liue in riot and excessse,  
Neuer regarding a good huswifes name,  
But vnto meetings do themselves adresse:  
Where hauing stufte their Panches with the best,  
Their tatling tongues shall neuer be at rest.  
Till they haue belcht vp all the venom'd hate,  
That causelssly they do their neighbours beare,  
These are of Gossips a pernicious rate,  
Deuoid of manners, reuerence or feare:  
Husband nor household do they ought respect,  
But them and their owne welfare do neglect.  
They are not contented when they come to feast,  
To feede and cram euen till their bellies crack,  
But hauing stufte their gorges with the best  
Ought that is good being left doth goe to wrack.  
What in their bellies there they cannot put,

*The Gossips greeting.*

They privately cram in another gux,  
They ne're respect no charge nor any cost,  
So they may haue it for their coming thither,  
Theile bib carouse and brag, and prate and boast,  
Till they are all drunke for company together:  
Then each gainst other heedlesly exclaime,  
This sort is bad, yet worser sorts remaine.



**ANOTHER SORT OF PRA-**  
ting Gossips and their humors when they  
*meet.*

**T**Hree prating Gossips at a Bakehouse met,  
And thought it long vnill their bread were set,  
That they together might conferre and talke,  
As altogether they did homeward walke,  
Which priuiledge the time would not permit,  
For longer there they were constrain'd to sit,  
Then they expected, staying to in,  
Which caus'd them with each other thus begin:  
Neighbours said one the richest of the three,  
Wee'le haue a meeting soone, if you'le agree,  
The other twaine, did freely giue consent,  
So that before they from the Bakehouse went,  
They did conclude, that betwixt two and three,



---

*The Gossips greeting.*

I th after noone then should their meeting be.  
Where (quoth the second) Gossips shall we meete?  
Chooſe ſome good Tauerne in ſome honeſt ſtreete;  
Where for an houre we may priuate ſit,  
And ſpend one pint, hang them that haue no wit,  
What muſt our husbands know of euery penny?  
Marry and ſhall, if e're they know of any:  
Nay (quoth the third) good Gossips learne by me,  
Ile teach you gull your husbands cunningly;  
Do you as Ile do, you ſhall ne're be croſt,  
I often on my ſelfe beſtow more coſt,  
Then e're he thinks on, or ſhall euer know,  
If I ſay I, he ſeldome will ſay no.  
VVeil Gossips (quoth the firſt) I ſhould be glad,  
If I ſo kind a louing husband had,  
If I at any time, chance for a friend,  
His iealous minde ſuch *Argos* eyes do lend,  
That I can ſeldome haue a merry houre:  
Faith Gossips (quoth the ſecond) euen of that power,  
Is my curſt husband to, his iealous head,  
Alwayes ſuſpecteth that I wrong his bed;  
If I at any time, or place do chance,  
Mine eye vpon a ſecret friend to glance,  
Straight he bewhoores me, and I leade a life,  
Far worſe then death his iealouſies ſo riſe.  
Tut (quoth the third) you two are fooles to me;  
But Gossips now Ile tell you where wee'll be,  
There is an honeſt houſe, hark in your eare,  
You know my meaning Gossips wee'll meete there,  
One of the Drawers there is my good friend,  
Beſides, if you for any friend will ſend,

*The Gossips greeting.*

A shall be fetch't and brought you in a trice,  
Nay Gossips, I can tell you, once and twice,  
And many a time I haue beene merry there,  
VVhen the poore foole my husband taking care,  
Hath bin at home contented with small beere,  
I and my copelmates haue had wine and cheere.  
So to be briefe, they freely all consent,  
To make that house their place of merriment:  
So hauing parted, eir her homeward trot,  
To their poore husbands, who (good men) God wor,  
Till their returne can neither drinke nor eate,  
Because thei'r lockt out both from drinke and meate,  
Which when they thinke with quietnesse to take,  
Their wiues (with scoulding) make them to forsake:  
With scoulding they of purpose do begin,  
Because they thinke that faire meanes cannot win,  
Their husbands leaues, that they abroad may goe,  
Therefore by scoulding, whether they will or no,  
Thei'le force them yeeld, else shall they ne're be quiet,  
Or day or night, at bed or else at diet:  
And hauing chid their husbands out of doores  
These scoulding gossips (worse then common whores)  
Do forthwith hasten to the appointed house,  
Where being mer, they solemnely carouse,  
Some vnto this friend, some to that friend drinke,  
Not one of them once on their husbands thinke:  
In any kind remembrance they poore soules,  
Are quite forgot in their carousing bowles.  
But when they haue well tyled close and round,  
Some one of them a question doth propound,  
Touching their husbands, which being begun;







*The Gossips greeting.*

From one to another it doth roundly run,  
One sayes, her husband's iealous, another replyes:  
Mine's curst and froward, the diuell pull out his eyes.  
And min's a drunken drossell, neuer content,  
Replyes the third, vntill that all be spent.  
I Gossips, did you know the hand I haue,  
Both night and day with a curst drunken knaue:  
You'd grieue I wis, and say my case were such,  
That it can neuer pittied be too much,  
If to my friends I chance for to complaine,  
The helpe God knowes is little I obtaine:  
For if to him they chance thereof to speake,  
When home he comes, his spleene on me hee'll reake:  
And if his knauish secrets I conceale,  
And vnto none his villany reueale,  
He is as bad to me or rather worse, (curse:  
Hee'll scold, hee'll fight, hee'll stamp, hee'll swear and  
So that no time or tide, can I haue rest,  
Wherefore good gossips counsell me the best,  
And so ile drinke to you Gossips with my heart,  
What is the wine quite out? drawe another quatt;  
Good Gossip call, lers not with dry lips part.  
Part with dry lips, Gossip, faith 'twere a shame,  
'Twas not to that intent we hither came:  
Sayes Bettris boldface, boldest of the three,  
But that we might together merry be,  
Drinke and carouse without respect or feare,  
Our husbands dreame not of our being heere,  
But should they know I would not thus much care,  
If mine were heere, we would haue better fare,  
For Gossips shall I tell you, with much adoe,

He

*The Gossips greeting.*

He is made subiect my desires vnto.  
And as I at the Bakehouse said before,  
I was compeld to scould, and ne're giue o're:  
Sometimes to cry, and fight and keepe a coile,  
Gossips god-wot, I haue past many a broyle,  
E're I could make him subiect to my will,  
Vse you your husbands so, thei'le soone be still:  
But Gods me Gossips, wherefore do we stay,  
Lets haue our quarts a peece more e're we pay:  
Then when you please Gossips, let's part away.  
So to be briefe, hauing had wine good store,  
And night at hand (vnwilling to giue o're,  
Being reeling ripe) these tating Gossips part,  
Yet e're they sturd they cal'd for each a quart:  
But what extremety the silly soules,  
Their husbands bide whilst they are in their boules.  
Iudge those that with such women pestered be,  
I'de with my foe no greater misery,  
Then to be wrapt in such a plaguing woe,  
Where how to free himselfe he doth not know,  
But should consume the remnant of his life,  
In grieffe and sorrow with a froward wife.  
Which of themselues they do not take in hand,  
But from their tutrix which neere them do stand,  
A full pancht slut.  
After a crooked curtisie which doth straine,  
With luggage her posteriors to complaine,  
So what with that steem, her breath Tobacco smoke,  
All well ne're poyson'd, ready are to choke.  
These tating Gossips whereof last I spake,  
Are such who ne're respect themselves nor state:



---

*The Gossips greeting.*

And if they may a meeting vndertake,  
Then do they wene themselves most fortunate,  
And pecuifhly do in expences run,  
Till both themselves and husbands are vndone.  
They are a lewd disdainfull idle sort,  
VVho full or fasting neuer are content,  
To scold at home, they hold it but a sport,  
Their chiefe delight's abroad in merriment,  
VVhat their poore husbands painefully obtaine.  
They do consume most idley and vaine.  
Thei'le make their husbands stoope vnto their loure,  
And their owne will of force must be a law,  
Else the poore man shall ne're haue merry houre;  
Hard is his hap, that so is brought in awe:  
Yet too too many by such creatures nought,  
Are vnto their vntimely ruine brought.

Ano:

---

---



## ANOTHER SORT

### OF ENTISING GOSSIPS

Shewing their sundry allurements,  
whereby they incite diuers  
*men to folly.*

**A** Nother sort of Gossips yet there are,  
Who with enticing words do men ensnare,  
Which sort are more pernicious then the rest,  
For these with lewdnesse do them selues inuest.  
Some being enclin'd to this vice, some to that,  
To theeuing, whoring, and I know not what,  
To diuing, drinking, drabbing, not a sin,  
But these vile monsters boldly will run in:  
Of which bale crew some do leade maydens liues,  
Others (not knowne) do passe for modest wiues.  
These making Sirens shew of purity,  
Only to hide their soule impiety:  
Do make their coyngesse for their sin a Cloke,  
But if that men but truly to them loke,  
They soone shall find the errours they liue in.  
And see how Iburne punisheth their sin,  
The Citty Gossips nor the countrys may,  
Compare with the Suburbians, for they  
Do in the suburbs domineere and and roare;  
Each being a swaggering swearer, and a whore,  
Witnessse those Gossips Turneball streete containe,

*And*



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*The Gossips greeting.*

And those likewise that in Pick-hatch remaine,  
The Garden Allies, Southwarke, the Banke-side,  
As where almost do not such dames abide,  
Whose lives are most dishonest loosely led,  
Wronging their neighbours on their husbands bed.  
Your modest seeming maids that there do vie,  
Far worse then whoores in forraigne countryes stewes,  
Like blazing Comets do attract the eye,  
Of every stranger that is passing by.  
And if they see their borrowed painted shapes,  
Deform'd in fashion like new fangled Apes,  
Be not of force sufficient to allure,  
Then Ciren-like theile vie another power:  
And with their Ciren words such musicke play,  
That soone perforce theile cause a man to stay,  
And thus they their allurements do begin,  
To tempt a man till they haue got him in.  
The full pauncht Baude (that Dung-cart full of filth)  
Full of diseases, euer wanting health,  
Stands at some loopehole vaporing out offmoake,  
Like *Etnas* sulpherous fume, ready to choake  
Any that bus the smell thereof come neere,  
The heate thereof she doth not quench with beere,  
But with hot waters of the dearest rate,  
At which she bibs all times, early and late,  
So that with fire and water both being hot,  
She doth enflame that heate she long since got:  
Which so portraicts is selfe in this huge creature,  
That she is transformed in despite of nature:  
For where at first she slender was and small,  
Now is her body metamorpho'd all,

And

*The Gossips greeting.*

And made a foule deformed vgly for,  
Worse then that Chaos whereof *Omni* wrot....  
In shape and fashion; when a man she spies.  
This hell-shap't monster doth from carowling rise,  
Hauing well neere smoakt, or drunke out her eyes.  
And to those gawdy Gossips soone doth show  
The party comming, whom though none do know,  
Yet to the dore they hast, and forthwith craue  
Acquaintance with the passenger to haue.  
No verser at Decoy (though free of h's trade)  
Can passe in versing the Suburbian Iade.  
Good Sir she sayes, vnlesse I do mistake,  
You are my countriman; for countries sake  
Wilt please you Sir, your selfe for to repose:  
Whereat my Woodcocke being caught by th' nose,  
Doth tell her plainly he's of such a shire:  
I thought so, sure saith she please you come neere  
For countreys sake weele drinke a Iugge of Beere.  
Perhaps his ley sure seruing, and being free,  
This my yong Nouice takes her courtesie.  
So in he goes, where many welcomes grace him,  
But ere he backe returnes they'e surely place him.  
So to be brieft, forthwith they call for beere,  
Which on a sudden is their chiefeft cheere.  
Some puny puncke then asks him if heele eate,  
My foole being tickl'd, straight demands what meate  
Is i'th'house; another queane replyes,  
Nothing good Sir but what my Mistris buyes:  
But if you please, ere you vntrusse a poynt,  
My mistris (Sir) will send for a good ioynt.  
Good sister let her, saith my silly Assie,

D

But



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*The Gossips greeting.*

But here take money sister, for by th' masse  
I do not lone to go vpon the score.  
When that is spent, pray come to me for more.  
So hauing money tane, and eke perceining  
That he's a man most fit for their receiuing:  
My minion sayes, she'le to her mistresse go,  
Ere she the meate do buy her minde to know.  
So vp to Mistresse Matron comes My sister,  
Euen as at first the fustilogs had wisht her:  
Leauing my Coxcombe with a whore or twaine,  
Vntill she from Matressa comes againe,  
In which short time (short time) we may suppose,  
My light heeld wagtailes cunningly do glose,  
And dowith many a sawning couloning wile,  
My ingenious wilard of his cash beguile.  
No sooner to Madona doth she come,  
Nay scarcely is she got within the roome,  
But the foule pusi-fac't Vrchin asks her Maide,  
Whether the man or no below is stayd:  
Is forsooth Mistresse, doth the maide reply:  
Then go saith she, tell him that by and by,  
As soone as this Tobacco is drunks out,  
He come my selfe vnto him; I do not doubt  
But he hath money. Mistresse (the maid replies)  
I, and good store too, therefore if you are wise,  
Good mistresse hasten downe, lest he should go,  
Wherewith my Bawde the pipe away doth throw;  
And like a Beare hauing wambled downe the staires,  
Vnto my newc<sup>ost</sup> Nouice she repaires,  
And puffing with her hands on either side  
Gasping for wind, she soone my toole hath spide;  
And

*The Gossips greeting.*

And with a pockie salutation dropie full,  
She giues a welcome to my new-come gull,  
Which on his lips she doth confirme with kissing,  
Wishing him speake to her if ought be missing:  
This sudden kindnesse so vnlookt for kowne,  
To him being there a stranger neuer showne:  
Thinking her by her habite for to be  
A modest Matrone of ciuilitie;  
Which is indeed a Diuell for villanie.  
Doth so besot my youth, that he neglects  
Himselfe and businesse, and nought else respects,  
But what may please this poyson'd Toade, and those,  
To whom thus carelesly he doth repose  
Himselfe and safetie: so desires to know  
What wine vpon the filth he may bestow.  
For my part saith the Bawd, if you'll bestow  
Ought vpon me, this I must let you know,  
Tobacco and strong water is my diet,  
Without both which (being sicke) I haue small quiet.  
Wherewith for both he suddainly doth call,  
And thereto with them doth most roundly fall,  
Vntrill his wits begin for to be suncke,  
Which when the Bawde perceiues, she cals a puncke,  
And whispers her forthwith, without delay  
To vse her skill and so she parts away:  
The puncks thus tutor'd (yet well skill'd before)  
Do either of them play the cheeuish whore,  
And with their diuing, soone they doe obtaine  
My Coxcombs coyne (being in a drunken vaine,)   
Which once being purchast, then these crafty whores,  
Twixt drunke and sober, turns him out of doores.







*The Gossips greeting.*

If he be one of spirit that they thus gull,  
He will not leave them such another pull:  
He'll venture, but from them he'll backe regaine,  
What they from him by cheating did obtaine.  
It's not long since a countriman of mine,  
hauing amongst them spent both Beere and Wine,  
They plaide vpon him long, yet which was worse,  
One pickt his pocket, and thence got his purse;  
Which when he mist, being well stut with gold,  
My lustie souldier with a courage bold,  
Told them all plainly, ere he thence did go,  
Hee'd haue his purse, whether they would or no.  
So searching narrowly, 'mongst them he espide  
His purse, with his one of their stockings tide  
Neere to her hammes, which ere he thence could get,  
Two peeces of the gold she thereout set,  
The one whereof, willing to haue the other  
He gaue the whore, and so her theft did smother.  
These sorts of gossips I need not explaine,  
Both towne and countrie of them do complaine:  
They are too well knowne to many, to their cost,  
Who if they should of their expences boast,  
They might (as others) who haue had like losse,  
Come home as they did all by weeping Crosse:  
This sort is shamelesse, fearelesse, of all law,  
Not of the Diuell do they stand in awe,  
To whom, vnlesse in time their liues they mend,  
As to their end I do them commend.

*FINIS.*



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